

TELECOMMUNICATIONS BULLETIN

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From:

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Long Distance Dialing "SCAM"

Agencies should be aware of an old long distance telephone "scam" that has apparently resurfaced. Please advise your employees of this recently reported activity.

NEVER dial **"9 0 #"** from your telephone, even if so requested.

The current scam features an individual posing as a telecommunications technician. The imposter will indicate that in order to check programming on the phone, the state employee should depress 9—0—#. Dialing that series of keys actually provides dial tone to the imposter, allowing him/her to place a long distance call at state expense, while simultaneously disconnecting the state employee from the call.

There is no programming currently known that permits the imposter continued fraudulent use of the LD service - i.e. the access is opened "one time" and active until the imposter disconnects. Should the imposter initiate a very lengthy call using the state access, there could still be a high one-time toll charge, especially if an international or 900 call is made. If an employee has already dialed 9 —0—# while on a call, there are no dialing instructions known that will "cancel" the LD access.

All state employees should be aware of this fraudulent activity.

NOTE: We anticipate getting more detailed information from AT&T and other LD carriers — these vendor notifications will also be posted on our web site for use by agency Telecommunications Coordinators.

For more information...
visit our website at
www.state.il.us/cms/telecom